Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 097893 ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /038 R

DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:TJWAJDA:PAP APPROVED BY EA/ANP:CASQUIRE EA/ANP:PALSTON EA:ROAKLEY

-----301922Z 082229 /45

R 300129Z APR 77 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, US, AS

SUBJECT: REMARKS AT PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

REF: CANBERRA 2815

1. EMBASSY'S DRAFT REMARKS GREATLY APPRECIATED.
DEPARTMENT HAS SLIGHTLY EDITED AND SHORTENED REMARKS
TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE EXCELLENCY: I HAVE THE HONOR TO PRESENT MY LETTERS OF CREDENCE AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY TO THE QUEEN OF AUSTRALIA AND AT THE SAME TIME TO PRESENT THE LETTER OF RECALL WITH RESPECT TO MY DISTINGUISHED PREDECESSOR AMBASSADOR JAMES W. HARGROVE.

I AM PARTICULARLY PLEASED TO HAVE BEEN NAMED BY PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER TO BE HIS FIRST DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TO AUSTRALIA. WHEN I VISITED WITH HIM BEFORE LEAVING THE UNITED STATES FOR AUSTRALIA, HE ASKED ME TO GIVE YOU HIS PERSONAL GREETINGS AND TO ASSURE YOU AND THE AUSTRALIAN PEOPLE THAT THE UNITED STATES PLACES VERY GREAT IMPORTANCE ON THE CLOSE AND FRIENDLY RELATIONSHIP WHICH EXISTS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES HAS GROWN AND DEVELOPED OVER THE YEARS. THIS IS NOT SURPRISING EXCELLENCY SINCE THE RELATIONSHIP IS BASED ON A SHARED LANGUAGE, A SIMILAR HERITAGE, AND A COMMON FAITH. WE HAVE SIMILAR DEMOCRATIC POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND WE SHARE COMMON IDEALS CONCERNING HUMAN RIGHTS AND PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE WORLD.

OVER THE YEARS OUR TIES HAVE GROWN STRONGER TEMPERED BY WARS FOUGHT IN THE COMMON INTEREST AND BY DIFFICULT TIMES. IN AMERICA WE PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE WORLD WAR I VETERANS OF BELLEAU WOOD AND CHATEAU-THIERRY. HERE ONLY RECENTLY ON ANZAC DAY YOU PAID YOUR RESPECTS, NOT ONLY TO THE VETERANS OF GALLIPOLI BUT ALSO TO THOSE OF TOBRUK IN WORLD WAR II. WE BOTH PAY OUR RESPECTS TO THE VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II IN THE PACIFIC -- THE CORAL SEA, NEW GUINEA, AND GUADALCANAL.

IN THIS INTERDEPENDENT WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE OUR TIES HAVE BECOME INEXTRICABLE. OUR ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL RELATIONSHIPS ARE OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO BOTH OUR COUNTRIES. OUR CULTURAL TIES ARE CLOSE. YOUR CREATIVE AND ACTIVE FELLOW CITIZENS OFTEN JOIN WITH OURS IN A WIDE RANGE OF CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. LAST YEAR, IN OUR BICENTENNIAL YEAR, THE AUSTRALIAN BALLET MADE A GREAT IMPACT DURING ITS TOUR OF THE UNITED STATES AND YOUR OPERATIC STARS AND YOUR POPULAR SINGERS ARE WELL KNOWN THROUGHOUT MY COUNTRY. WE HAVE OTHER TIES, NOT LEAST IN THE FIELD OF SPORT, AND I AM SURE THAT IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMERICA CUP RACE OFF NEWPORT IN SEPTEMBER THE AUSTRALIAN CHALLENGER WILL GIVE THE AMERICAN YACHT DEFENDING THE CUP "A GOOD GO".

OUR TWO COUNTRIES, EXCELLENCY, HAVE BEEN GREATLY FAVORED IN THAT WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH A LARGE SHARE OF THE WORLD'S RICHES. I BELIEVE IT IS OUR COMMON TASK TO MAXIMIZE THESE RICHES, NOT ONLY TO THE BENEFIT OF OUR FELLOW CITIZENS, BUT TO USE THEM AMONG THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD TO NURTURE AND PRESERVE LIBERTY, HUMAN DIGNITY, AND SELF RESPECT. WE MAY SOMETIMES DISAGREE ON SPECIFIC APPROACHES TO PROBLEMS -- WHETHER THEY BE POLITICAL, SOCIAL OR ECONOMIC -- BUT I AM SURE THAT WE WILL ALWAYS AGREE ON THE IMPORTANCE OF THESE IDEALS WHICH ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR COMMON POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY. END QUOTE.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PREPARE DOUBLE-SPACED TEXT OF REMARKS FOR DELIVERY.

	Margaret P. Grafeld	Declassified/Released	US Department of State	EO Systematic Review	22 May 2009
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, SPEECHES, AMBASSADORS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 30-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition Event:
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE097893
Document Source: Core

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: TJWAJDA:PAP Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

Film Number: D770152-0627

Format: TEL From: STATE

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977041/aaaaaanj.tel

Line Count: 117 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c9dd309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EA

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 CANBERRA 2815

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 16-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 2657885 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: REMARKS AT PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

TAGS: PDIP, US, AS, (ALSTON, PHILIP H JR)

To: CANBERRA Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c9dd309b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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